

In the Claims

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. – 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A coupling for a pipe comprising:

a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material having a central bore, an outer surface, ~~and an inner surface~~ tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion, and an external ledge adjoining said outer and inner surfaces;~~

[[a]] ~~one or more retainer~~ retaining members each comprising a retaining surface that is tapered substantially along its entire length for retaining said a pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed into the housing; and

a continuous layer of a relatively deformable material, distinct from the retaining members, ~~disposed on retainer on~~ at least a part of ~~the tapered portion of the inner surface, the external ledge, of the central bore~~ and at least a part of the outer surface of said housing such that said continuous layer 1) deforms along the tapered ~~on the tapered portion of the inner surface of the central bore~~ against an outside of ~~said any pipe within a size range that is inserted into the housing to form a~~ diametrical sealing engagement and 2) has a part formed on said outer surface ~~on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member and is continuous between said inner and outer surfaces.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said continuous layer on said inner surface provides [[a]] additional tapering along said inner surface.

19. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said retaining members are ~~retainer~~ is formed integrally with said housing.

20. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said retaining members each ~~retainer~~ includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage projections ~~a projection~~ on said a pipe that is inserted into the housing.

21. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 20 [[5]], ~~wherein said pipe has a corrugated external surface, and~~ wherein each of said catch members is adapted to engage between said corrugations of a corrugated pipe.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said continuous layer includes a part that provides a manual gripping region on said outer surface.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said deformable material is an elastomeric material.

26. (Currently amended) A coupling for connecting one end of a corrugated pipe to a cooperating member comprising:

a rigid housing of tubular ~~shape~~ construction having a central bore, an outer surface, an inner surface tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion~~ and two resilient spring catches on opposite sides that engage between corrugations on an outside of ~~said a pipe~~ within a size range when the pipe is pushed within at least a portion of the central bore of the coupling; and

a continuous layer of a deformable material, distinct from said resilient spring catches and continuously joined ~~bonded~~ with at least the tapered ~~portion of the inside~~ inner surface and at least a portion of the outer surface of said housing to form an internal, tapering sealing surface which deforms against and forms a seal with the cooperating member, and wherein said continuous layer

includes a part formed on said outer surface ~~outside~~ of said housing on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member.

27. (Previously Presented) An assembly comprising a corrugated pipe and a coupling comprising:

a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material, said housing having a central bore, an outer surface and an inner surface tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion~~; retaining means retaining said pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed within the central bore coupling; and

a layer of a relatively deformable material distinct from the retaining means and molded onto at least a part of both the tapered ~~portion of the~~ inner surface and the outer surface of said housing, wherein said layer provides additional tapering ~~a tapering surface~~ on said inner surface to allow deformation ~~which deforms~~ against an outside surface diameter of a range of sizes of said pipe in said central bore, and thereby forms a diametrical seal with the outside surface of said pipe, wherein said layer includes a part formed on said outer surface on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member, and wherein said layer is continuous between said inner and outer surfaces.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a coupling comprising:

injecting a first material of a relatively hard plastics material to form a housing of said coupling with a central bore, an outer surface, an inner surface that is tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion~~ and an integral retainer; and

subsequently injecting a second, softer, deformable material to form a continuous layer on said harder material on the tapered ~~portion of the~~ inner surface and at least a portion of the outer surface of said housing, wherein said deformable material is distinct from said integral retainer, and

wherein said layer forms a further tapered ~~a tapering~~ surface on said inner surface ~~inside~~ of said housing and surrounds said integral retainer and deforms into sealing engagement with an outside of a pipe when the pipe is pushed into the housing, wherein said layer includes a part formed on said outer surface ~~outside~~ of said housing on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member, and wherein said layer is continuous between said inner ~~inside~~ and said outer surfaces ~~outside~~ of said housing.

29. (Currently Amended) The method ~~coupling~~ according to claim 28 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member to engage a projection on said pipe.

30. (Currently Amended) The assembly ~~coupling~~ according to claim 27 ~~[[3]]~~, wherein said retaining means ~~retainer~~ includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage a projection on said pipe.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to Claim 26, wherein said layer includes a part that provides a manual gripping region on said outer surface.